March 20, 1959

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE **SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS**

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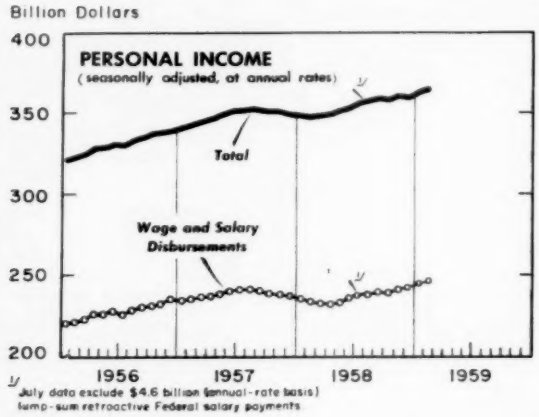
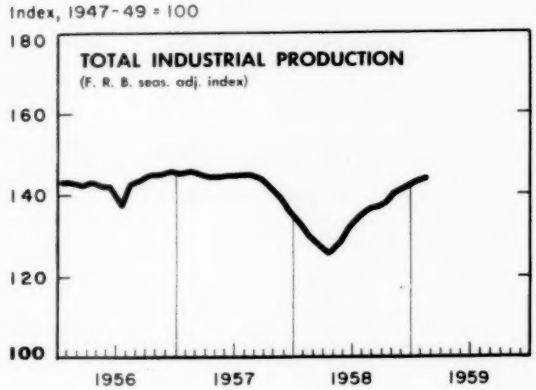
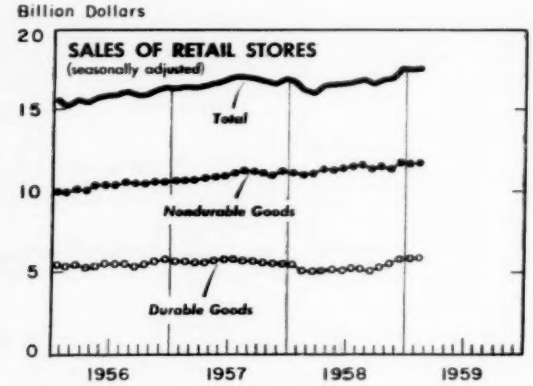
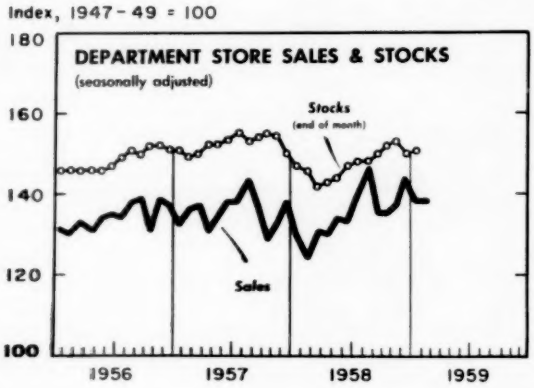
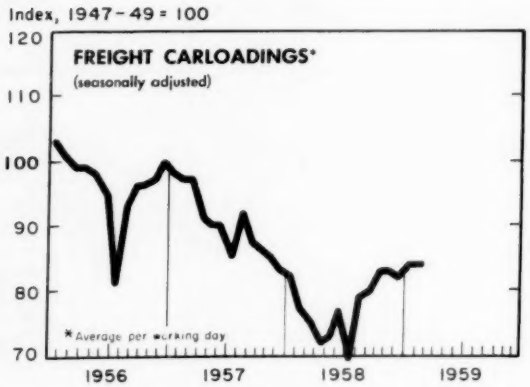
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

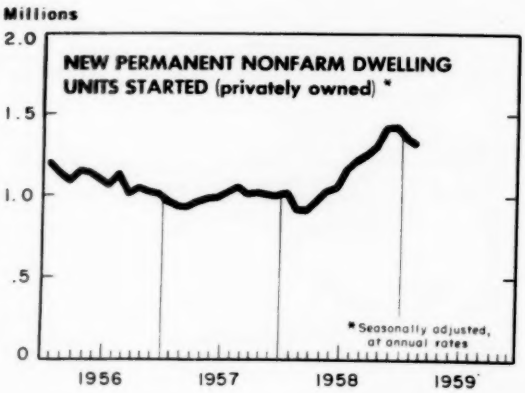












WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1958		1959			
	Mar. 8	Mar. 15	Feb. 21	Feb. 28	Mar. 7	Mar. 14
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*119.0	119.4	119.1	119.2	119.2
Farm products.....do....	.....	* 96.1	91.0	89.9	90.3	90.3
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*109.9	107.8	107.2	107.2	107.4
All other.....do....	.....	*125.7	127.6	127.5	127.6	127.6
22 commodities 2/.....do....	85.6	85.4	84.2	84.2	84.3	85.5
Department store sales.....do....	112	114	109	118	118	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	3,501	3,493	**2,897	**2,850	.....	.....
State and UCFE programs.....do....	3,275	3,264	2,375	2,331	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	358	336	310	296	288	311
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,563	30,641	31,205	31,111	31,126	31,215
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,309	24,456	27,112	26,965	26,892	26,976
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,674	18,699	18,562	18,389	18,375	18,421
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	590	603	382	374	352	475
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	54,503	56,031	56,671	57,070	56,206	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	26,038	26,264	28,217	28,233	28,313	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	88,576	89,408	94,061	93,857	93,784	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	27,707	28,025	31,183	30,825	30,627	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	30,161	30,292	30,252	30,258	30,301	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,709	8,725	9,738	9,757	9,743	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.03	4.03	4.42	4.41	4.40	.....
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	41.47	42.41	54.50	55.24	56.35	56.35
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	44.25	45.33	57.97	58.83	60.06	60.02
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,377	1,273	1,343	1,373	1,286	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,793	11,860	13,259	12,972	12,945	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....number..	102,015	103,699	145,916	153,394	157,006	156,868
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,328	6,257	7,208	7,199	7,213	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,425	1,463	2,449	2,506	2,556	2,604
Percent of capacity.....	#52.8	#54.2	86.5	88.5	90.3	92.0
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	544	539	583	576	596	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	280	280	307	305	324	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning March 16, 1959; Production, 2,610 thous. short tons; operating rate, 92.2 percent. *Monthly index for February 1958. **Includes persons reported under temporary programs (TUC) and under Ex-Servicemen's Unemployment Compensation Act of 1958 (UCX). #Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1958				1959	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Personal income, by source, seasonally adj. at annual rates:						
Total personal income.....bil. of dol..	348.8	347.5	360.7	359.9	r363.0	364.5
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....do....	235.1	233.2	242.0	243.3	r245.4	246.1
Commodity-producing industries.....do....	97.9	95.6	100.3	101.0	r102.1	102.1
Manufacturing only.....do....	76.9	75.4	79.1	79.9	r80.8	81.1
Distributive industries.....do....	63.5	63.4	63.9	64.2	r64.8	65.1
Service industries.....do....	33.1	33.2	34.2	34.3	r34.5	34.7
Government.....do....	40.7	41.0	43.7	43.9	r44.0	44.2
Other labor income.....do....	9.1	9.0	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.5
Proprietors' income:						
Business and professional.....do....	30.9	30.4	31.8	32.0	32.3	32.4
Farm.....do....	12.6	13.8	13.6	13.5	13.3	13.2
Rental income of persons.....do....	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.5
Dividends.....do....	12.5	12.4	12.4	10.6	12.5	12.5
Personal interest income.....do....	19.3	19.3	19.5	19.6	19.6	19.8
Transfer payments.....do....	23.9	23.8	26.6	26.0	r25.8	26.3
Less personal contributions for social insurance..do....	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	r7.7	7.8
Total nonagricultural income.....do....	332.5	330.1	343.2	342.4	r345.8	347.5
Farm income and marketings:						
Cash receipts from farming, including Government payments, total.....mil. of dol..	2,753	2,175	3,544	3,087	2,909	.....
Farm marketings and CCC loans, total.....do....	2,708	2,144	3,478	3,034	2,862	.....
Crops.....do....	1,171	799	1,832	1,516	1,344	.....
Livestock and products, total.....do....	1,537	1,345	1,646	1,518	1,518	.....
Dairy products.....do....	377	355	364	363	366	.....
Meat animals.....do....	886	738	958	881	888	.....
Poultry and eggs.....do....	246	223	310	260	238	.....
Indexes of cash receipts from marketings and CCC loans, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	111	88	143	125	118	.....
Crops.....do....	109	74	171	141	125	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	113	99	121	111	111	.....
Indexes of volume of farm marketings, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....do....	126	97	156	139	127	.....
Crops.....do....	131	86	191	155	135	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	122	105	129	126	120	.....

r/ Revised.

ITEM	1958				1959	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Industrial production (FRB):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1947-49=100..	132	131	144	140	142	p145
Manufactures.....do....	134	133	146	r141	r144	p148
Durable manufactures.....do....	143	139	r155	152	r153	p157
Primary metals.....do....	102	99	124	r119	r127	p140
Metal fabricating (including ordnance).....do....	161	156	167	168	r168	p170
Fabricated metal products.....do....	127	124	136	136	r134	p137
Machinery.....do....	153	148	153	r152	r156	p160
Transportation equipment.....do....	196	191	211	r214	r210	p208
Instruments and related products.....do....	166	163	174	r176	r176	p179
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	113	112	132	r132	131	p133
Lumber and products.....do....	100	105	126	r109	113	.....
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	136	130	153	r145	r142	p144
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	125	127	144	r137	r133	p137
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	125	126	138	r130	135	p138
Printing and publishing.....do....	136	137	146	140	139	p141
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	134	130	140	144	rp146	p147
Minerals.....do....	120	118	123	123	122	p123
Coal.....do....	73	70	75	74	71	p72
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	147	145	147	150	150	p150
Adjusted, combined index.....do....	133	130	141	142	143	p144
Manufactures.....do....	135	131	143	144	145	p146
Durable manufactures.....do....	142	137	151	152	r153	p155
Primary metals.....do....	100	95	123	r123	125	p135
Metal fabricating (including ordance).....do....	159	153	163	165	r166	p166
Fabricated metal products.....do....	129	124	136	136	r136	p137
Machinery.....do....	151	144	150	152	r154	p156
Transportation equipment.....do....	191	185	r203	204	r204	p201
Instruments and related products.....do....	166	163	173	175	r176	p179
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	114	111	129	r127	133	p132
Lumber and products.....do....	110	108	125	125	125	.....
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	142	134	151	r148	r148	p149
Miscellaneous manufactures.....do....	129	127	137	r134	r137	p137
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	127	125	135	135	137	p138
Printing and publishing.....do....	140	139	142	r139	r143	p143
Petroleum and coal products.....do....	131	129	139	142	rp143	p145
Minerals.....do....	121	118	123	123	r123	p124
Coal.....do....	69	70	72	71	67	p72
Crude oil and natural gas.....do....	144	141	147	r148	147	p146
Consumer durables output (FRB):						
Adjusted index, total.....do....	113	110	133	134	r133	p131
Major consumer durables.....do....	117	111	142	143	r140	p136
Autos.....do....	117	107	139	143	139	p130
Major household goods.....do....	118	117	148	r145	144	.....
Other consumer durables.....do....	105	107	113	114	r118	p119
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S.Dept. of Commerce Index).1935-39=100..	217.8	218.0	220.7	220.0	219.9	.....
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New permanent nonfarm dwelling units started:						
Unadjusted: Total, privately and publicly owned....thous..	67.9	66.1	r109.4	91.0	86.0	89.0
Privately owned, total.....do....	62.9	61.0	r107.0	89.5	83.3	87.9
In metropolitan areas.....do....	43.3	42.1	r72.3	62.7	58.8	60.6
Publicly owned.....do....	5.0	5.1	r2.4	1.5	2.7	1.1
Seasonally adj. at annual rate, privately owned.....do....	1,020.0	915.0	r1,427.0	1,430.0	1,350.0	1,320.0
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 1/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	15,286	13,783	17,039	21,174	r16,223	14,943
Durable-goods stores.....do....	4,810	4,290	5,343	6,390	r5,121	4,910
Automotive group.....do....	2,810	2,471	2,756	3,214	r3,016	2,911
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	777	719	937	1,176	r784	718
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	683	591	929	919	697	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,476	9,493	11,695	14,784	r11,102	10,033
Apparel group.....do....	854	698	1,119	1,854	r868	722
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	538	507	541	738	r581	549
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,133	1,027	1,204	1,243	r1,158	1,086
Food group.....do....	4,126	3,778	4,188	4,475	r4,382	3,847
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,209	1,122	1,338	1,369	r1,282	1,187
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,376	1,201	2,018	3,358	r1,442	1,356
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	16,718	16,089	16,961	17,605	r17,454	17,542
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,538	5,055	5,521	5,827	r5,836	5,845
Automotive group.....do....	3,094	2,741	2,906	3,256	3,257	3,263
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	869	852	883	868	880	855
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	887	830	942	919	905	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	11,180	11,033	11,441	11,778	r11,618	11,697
Apparel group.....do....	1,059	1,004	1,033	1,101	1,032	1,045
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	539	540	565	580	579	585
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,236	1,186	1,232	1,243	1,263	1,261

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for February 1959 are advance estimates.

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ITEM	1958				1959	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
DOMESTIC TRADE - Continued						
All retail stores 1/ - Continued						
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted) - Continued						
Nondurable-goods stores - Continued						
Food group.....mil. of dol..	4,116	4,167	4,215	4,242	4,244	4,250
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,290	1,282	1,342	1,356	1,367	1,357
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,772	1,640	1,777	1,887	1,824	1,852
Estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total.....do....	23,360	23,980	24,840	r23,210	23,310	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	11,010	11,220	10,620	r10,640	10,890	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	12,350	12,760	14,220	r12,570	12,420	.....
Adjusted, total.....do....	24,460	24,290	23,600	r23,980	24,110	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do....	11,340	11,220	10,460	r10,810	11,010	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	13,120	13,070	13,140	r13,170	13,100	.....
Retail firms with 4 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,763	3,353	4,483	6,023	3,968	.....
Retail firms with 11 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....do....	3,210	2,864	3,865	5,178	3,148	.....
Apparel group.....do....	165	136	258	434	179	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	83	78	92	149	93	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	67	62	73	75	69	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	34	34	47	53	36	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	830	716	1,260	2,093	868	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,568	1,401	1,567	1,659	1,676	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	47	42	69	55	48	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	54	50	72	101	62	.....
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	3,557	3,436	3,698	3,789	3,723	.....
Apparel group.....do....	228	211	240	258	239	.....
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	88	88	97	100	98	.....
Eating and drinking places.....do....	72	72	74	72	75	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores.....do....	39	39	42	41	42	.....
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,077	992	1,102	1,135	1,122	.....
Grocery stores.....do....	1,522	1,521	1,573	1,597	1,575	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers.....do....	60	57	71	65	62	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores.....do....	69	67	76	72	80	.....
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....bil. of dol..	10.4	9.5	11.5	12.0	11.1	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	3.5	3.2	4.2	4.2	3.8	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.9	6.3	7.3	7.8	7.3	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....	12.5	12.4	12.0	11.6	11.8	.....
Durable-goods establishments.....do....	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.0	6.2	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....	6.1	6.0	5.9	r5.7	5.6	.....
FINANCE						
Stocks, cash dividend payments publicly reported:						
Total dividend payments.....mil. of dol..	852.7	376.4	314.1	2,139.0	873.7	387.1
Finance.....do....	193.3	125.7	79.0	268.9	192.3	134.4
Manufacturing.....do....	270.9	123.2	117.4	1,337.5	269.6	118.0
Mining.....do....	8.6	2.4	2.5	141.0	7.8	2.5
Public utilities:						
Communications.....do....	162.0	1.2	1.3	73.4	175.1	1.4
Electric and gas.....do....	93.6	88.4	91.5	161.7	100.5	93.4
Railroad.....do....	28.5	6.5	2.8	73.8	29.8	6.1
Trade.....do....	85.6	22.5	13.2	50.8	88.2	23.1

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for February 1959 are advance estimates.
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